

conical tubercles, averaging from one-third to one-half of a line in diameter, and less than half their diameter apart, each radiatingly sulcated from the apex to the margin, the deep sulci forming between them usually fourteen strongly defined, rough ridges from the apex, each of which is again divided by a short sulcus at its base; tubercles abruptly defined from the flat surface on which they rest; intervening surface with minute radiating striæ.

The specimen examined of this, which is one of the rarest ichthyolites of the mountain limestone, is an irregular fragment about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch long and 5 lines wide; it is impossible to suggest what part of the body it belonged to. The genus has not been recorded before in the carboniferous limestone.

From the same locality and in the same collection as the last.

[To be continued.]

II.—*Notice of a new species of Antrophyum.* By R. K. GREVILLE, LL.D. &c.*

[With a Plate.]

IN addition to the two new species of ferns (*Oleandra Sibbaldii* and *Grammitis blechnoides*) recently communicated to Professor Balfour by Dr. Sibbald from the island of Tahiti, I have now to submit the description of a third to the Botanical Society. The discovery of this plant is an additional proof how much remains to be done in an island where numerous collections have been made, but which is evidently still rich in undescribed productions. It is to be hoped that Dr. Sibbald will have an opportunity of revisiting Tahiti under more favourable circumstances, and that he will add largely to his collections, especially of ferns and mosses.

The interesting fern which forms the subject of this short notice belongs to *Antrophyum*, a genus having undivided, more or less lanceolate fronds, in which the sori form continuous grooved lines on the simply reticulate venation. *Antrophyum* is thus nearly allied to *Hemionitis*, from which, it must be confessed, it scarcely differs, except in the simplicity of the frond, for the grooved sorus is a somewhat variable character.

There is however another genus, *Polytanium* of Desvaux, which has been separated on, as it appears to me, more slender grounds. In that genus the sori are not reticulated, but form

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uninterrupted parallel lines, connected however by non-soriferous veins.

The plant I am about to describe seems to do away with such a distinction; for in it the sori are parallel, uninterrupted, and might be described as remotely forked rather than reticulated, and so seldom does *any* division in the sorus take place, that it is sometimes simply continuous for two or three inches together.

Antrophyum Grevillii (Balfour in herb.); fronde sessili, late lineari-lanceolata, inferne præcipue attenuata, soris approximatis, parallelis, longissimis, villosis, remote furcatis.

I cannot find any described species of *Antrophyum* which at all corresponds with Dr. Sibbald's specimens. The fronds are tufted, ten to eighteen inches in length, fully an inch broad in the widest part, from whence they become insensibly narrower towards the base, which however never passes into a true stipes, although there is for the space of two or three inches an obscure midrib. The sori, which constitute the most remarkable feature, are so approximated as to be not more than a line apart, forming twelve or more uninterrupted lines, which sometimes divide at very remote intervals, but scarcely ever anastomose. The capsules, which are similar to those of the other species of the genus, are almost quite concealed by the mass of ferruginous hairs which arise along with themselves from the soriferous vein.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE I.

Fig. 1. *Antrophyum Grevillii*, nat. size.

- 2. A portion of the frond, showing the groove and soriferous vein.
- 3. A capsule with some of the ferruginous hairs.
- 4. Seeds.

III.—*A Description of some new Species of Fishes from the Sea surrounding the Island of Barbados.* By Sir ROBERT H. SCHOMBURGK, Ph.D., Member of the Imperial Academy Nat. Curios. &c.*

IT is much to be regretted that we do not possess as yet a systematical description of the fishes which inhabit or frequent the sea surrounding the West Indian Archipelago. If we consider that this group of islands extends from the Orinoco to East Florida, over more than eighteen degrees of latitude, namely from 9° to $27\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ north, and over twenty-seven degrees of longitude, the interest attached to this great expanse of sea may be conceived. It is true we find occasionally a description of some so-

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